

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 21 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, add new Claims 29 and 30, and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) A user apparatus that communicates with a print management apparatus via a network, comprising:

print shop information obtaining means for notifying said print management apparatus of a use condition and obtaining, in advance, print shop information for of a plurality of print shops each having a print ability corresponding to the notified use condition, from said print management apparatus;

print data forming setting obtaining means for setting a print condition by using a printer driver installed in said user apparatus and forming print data in accordance with the set print condition;

print data forming means for forming print data based on the print condition set by the print setting obtaining means;

judgment means for judging whether each of the plurality of print shops included in the print shop information obtained in advance by said print shop information obtaining means can print the print data formed by said print data forming means, on the basis of the print condition of the print data and the print ability of the print shop;

screen information forming means for forming screen information for
distinctively displaying print shops judged by said judgment means as a print shop which
can print the formed print data, and print shops judged by said judgment means as a print
shop which can not print the formed print data, in such a manner that the display of the
print shops which can not print the formed print data indicates that such print shops are not
selectable on the basis of the obtained print shop information of the plurality of print shops
and the print condition set by the print setting obtaining means so that the formed screen
information indicates whether or not each print shop of the plurality of print shops in the
obtained print shop information is capable of printing the print data, after forming the print
data by the print data forming means;

selection accepting means for accepting a designation of selecting a print
shop to order print processing of the formed print data, from among the plurality of print
shops displayed in the print shop information as the print shops which can print the formed
print data, on the basis of the formed screen information; and

print order forming means for forming a print order, including the
designation of [[a]] the selected print shop.

21. to 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for processing
information between a user apparatus and a print management apparatus through
communication via a network,

wherein said print management apparatus comprises:

print shop information searching means for searching for information of a plurality of print shops; and

print shop information transmitting means for transmitting the print shop information searched by the print shop information searching means to said user apparatus, and

wherein said user apparatus comprises:

print shop information obtaining means for notifying the print management apparatus of a use condition and receiving the print shop information for of the plurality of print shops each having a print ability corresponding to the notified use condition, from transmitted by the print shop information transmitting means;

print data forming setting obtaining means for setting a print condition by using a printer driver installed in said user apparatus and forming print data in accordance with the set print condition;

print data forming means for forming print data based on the print condition set by the print setting obtaining means;

judgment means for judging whether each of the plurality of print shops included in the print shop information, obtained in advance by said print shop information obtaining means, can print the print data formed by said print data forming means, on the basis of the print condition of the print data and the print ability of the print shop;

screen information forming means for forming screen information for distinctively displaying print shops judged by said judgment means as a print shop which can print the formed print data, and print shops judged by said judgment means as a print shop which can not print the formed print data, in such a manner that the display of the

print shops which can not print the print data indicates that such print shops are not selectable on the basis of the print shop information of the plurality of print shops transmitted by the print shop transmitting means and the print condition set by the print setting obtaining means so that the formed screen information indicates whether or not each print shop of the plurality of print shops in said print shop information is capable of printing the print data, after forming the print data by the print data forming means;

selection accepting means for accepting a designation of selecting a print shop to order print processing of the formed print data, from among the plurality of print shops displayed in the print shop information as the print shops which can print the formed print data, on the basis of the formed screen information; and

a print order forming means for forming a print order, including the designation of a the selected print shop.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored a computer-executable program for causing a user apparatus that communicates with a print management apparatus via a network to execute a print control process, said print control process comprising:

a print shop information obtaining step of the user apparatus notifying said print management apparatus of a use condition and obtaining, in advance, print shop information for of a plurality of print shops each having a print ability corresponding to the notified use condition, from said print management apparatus;

a print data forming setting obtaining step of the user apparatus setting a print condition by using a printer driver installed in said user apparatus and forming print data in accordance with the set print condition;

a print data forming step of the user apparatus forming print data based on the print condition set in the print setting obtaining step;

a judgment step of judging whether each of the plurality of print shops included in the print shop information obtained in advance in said print shop information obtaining step can print the print data formed in said print data forming step, on the basis of the print condition of the print data and the print ability of the print shop;

a screen information forming step of the user apparatus forming screen information for distinctively displaying print shops judged in said judgment step as a print shop which can print the formed print data, and print shops judged in said judgment step as a print shop which can not print the formed print data, in such a manner that the display of the print shops which can not print the formed print data indicates that such print shops are not selectable on the basis of the obtained print shop information of the plurality of print shops and the print condition set in the print setting obtaining step so that the formed screen information indicates whether or not each print shop of the plurality of print shops in the obtained print shop information is capable of printing the print data, after forming the print data in the print data forming step;

a selection accepting step of the user apparatus accepting a designation of selecting a print shop to order print processing of the formed print data, from among the plurality of print shops displayed in the print shop information as the print shops which can print the formed print data, on the basis of the formed screen information; and

a print order forming step of the user apparatus forming a print order,
including the designation of the selected print shop.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable control method executed by a user apparatus that communicates with a print management apparatus via a network, comprising:

a print shop information obtaining step of the user apparatus notifying said print management apparatus of a use condition and obtaining, in advance, print shop information for of a plurality of print shops each having a print ability corresponding to the notified use condition, from said print management apparatus;

a print data forming setting obtaining step of the user apparatus setting a print condition by using a printer driver installed in said user apparatus and forming print data in accordance with the set print condition;

a print data forming step of the user apparatus forming print data based on the print condition set in the print setting obtaining step;

a judgment step of judging whether each of the plurality of print shops indicated by the print shop information obtained in advance in said print shop information obtaining step can print the print data formed in said print data forming step, on the basis of the print condition of the print data and the print ability of the print shop;

a screen information forming step of the user apparatus forming screen information for distinctively displaying print shops judged in said judgment step as a print

shop which can print the formed print data, and print shops judged in said judgment step as
a print shop which can not print the formed print data, in such a manner that the display of
the print shops which can not print the print data indicates that such print shops are not
selectable on the basis of the obtained print shop information of the plurality of print shops
and the print condition set in the print setting obtaining step so that the formed screen
information indicates whether or not each print shop of the plurality of print shops in the
obtained print shop information is capable of printing the print data, after forming the print
data in the print data forming step;

 a selection accepting step of the user apparatus accepting a designation of
selecting a print shop to order print processing of the formed print data, from among the
plurality of print shops displayed in the print shop information as the print shop which can
print the formed print data, on the basis of the formed screen information; and

 a print order forming step of the user apparatus forming a print order,
including the designation of a selected print shop.

28. (Canceled)

29. (New) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein each of the use
condition and the print ability includes at least one of a page size, a media type, a page
layout and a finishing option.

30. (New) An apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising:

inquiry means for inquiring of said print management apparatus about whether the print shop information of the print shop selected by said selection means has been updated; and

update means for downloading the print shop information from said print management apparatus when said print management apparatus replies that the print shop information has been updated, thereby updating the print shop information obtained by said print shop information obtaining means,

wherein said selection means re-selects a print shop after said update means updates the print shop information.